

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB BULLETIN

VOL. 34, NO. 7

APRIL 15, 1979

HOTEL BILTMORE • 55 EAST 43RD STREET • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017 • (212) 687-2430

Shop Talks Due April 24 and 25

The reel world versus the real world.

Back-to-back "Shop Talks" on Tuesday, April 24 and Wednesday, April 25 dramatically display the program variety that has made *Larry Stessin* and *Gloria Zukerman* "Shop Talks" one of the more important and popular programs at the OPC.

Heading off the two day barrage of words will be A.E. Hotchner, Boswell to superstars. After spending five months with Sophia Loren in her Paris apartment (a chore he has the nerve to term "work"), "Hotch" penned the movie superstar's autobiography "Sophia: Living and Loving." Hear him tell about his "work" beginning at 5:30 PM on the 24th.

On the following night, sights will be trained on the Middle East when our guest will be Jay Bushinsky, foreign correspondent in Israel for The Chicago Sun-Times and Tel Aviv Bureau Chief for Westinghouse Broadcasting's Group W stations (WINS in New York). He will give attending members an update on the middle east situation; a story he has covered since 1967. This gathering will also start at 5:30 PM.

—Chas. Schreiber

ANNUAL MEETING

All members are urged to attend the Club's annual meeting Monday, April 30, at the Biltmore, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

April 30 also is the voting deadline in this year's election to fill eight vacancies on the Board of Governors. To be counted, ballots must arrive at the Biltmore no later than 12 noon on that date. Added reminder — all ballots must be returned in the official election envelope which was mailed to you March 30. Envelopes bear the election serial number, without which your vote is invalid.

Seven active and one associate members will be elected in 1979. The first four active runners and the first two associate runners will be designated as alternates. **Don't forget to vote.**



Jay Bushinsky

Up-and-coming

Friday, April 20, 5:30 p.m. — Jazz nite, featuring Benny Waters from Paris on the tenor sax, with Bill Jones, piano; Tommy Benford, drums; and Johnny Williams, bass. Admission \$3; at the Biltmore; cash bar.

Tuesday, April 24, 5:30 p.m. — "Shop Talk" with A. E. Hotchner, talking about his new biography of screen star Sophia Loren (he also wrote one about Hemingway.) Free admission; charge bar only; at the Chemists' Club.

Wednesday, April 25, 5:30 p.m. — "Shop Talk" with Jay Bushinsky, Israel correspondent for *Chicago Sun-Times* and Westinghouse Broadcasting, speaking on "The Middle East Enters a New Era." Free admission; cash bar; at the Biltmore.

Friday, May 18, 5:30 p.m. — Jazz nite, with trumpeter Hank Doughty and his "Pioneers of Jazz" big band of eighteen musicians, Ray Abrams, co-leader and arranger. Free to OPC members; seating on first-come basis; at the Biltmore; cash bar.

Thursday, May 24 — Annual awards dinner and OPC fortieth anniversary dinner (combined event), with Gen. Alexander M. Haig, Jr., NATO commander, as our principal speaker. Black tie; at the Waldorf Astoria. Details to be announced.

Top Execs Join Dinner Group

In a gratifying response, the chairmen and presidents of ten of the nation's major newspapers, magazines, news organizations and TV and radio networks have accepted invitations to serve as an honorary committee for the OPC's combined annual awards dinner and fortieth anniversary dinner May 24 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. *Lowell Thomas* is honorary chairman. Invitations were issued on behalf of the Club by OPC President *Henry Gellerman*.

Gen. Alexander M. Haig, Jr., supreme commander of NATO forces in Europe, will be principal speaker at the black-tie event. Chas. Scarborough, anchorman for NBC's evening news roundup, will officiate at the awards presentation. *Bob Sheridan* is dinner chairman and awards chairman. This year's honorary dinner committee is the first of its kind to honor our Club in this manner in its 40-year history.

Committee members are (in alphabetical order):

Roderick Beaton, president and general manager, United Press International.

Robert Campbell, chairman of the board, *Newsweek*.

Keith Fuller, president and general manager, The Associated Press.

William Randolph Hearst, Jr., chairman, executive committee, Hearst Corp.

John Jay Iselin, president, Educational Broadcasting Corp., WNET/TV.

W.H. James, president and publisher, *New York Daily News*.

William S. Paley, chairman of the board, Columbia Broadcasting System.

Warren H. Phillips, president and chief executive officer, *Wall Street Journal*.

Fred Silverman, president, National Broadcasting Company.

Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, chairman of the board and president and publisher, *The New York Times*.

Dinner tickets are \$45 each for members and one guest; additional tickets are \$75. Reservations may be made for tables of ten or for individual seating; tickets are going fast, so get your reservations in early (Mary Novick, OPC at the Biltmore, 687-2430).

Neuharth Says Press Is Free

Allan H. Neuharth believes in media diversity. It's a good thing he does because, for the past seven years, he has been chairman of the board of the Gannett newspaper chain, and he also is president of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, both of which represent about as much diversity of media as it is possible to have.

With the imminent merger of Gannett and Combined Communications Corporation, Neuharth will become the chief executive controlling an \$800 million-a-year enterprise consisting of 80 newspapers, 20 TV and radio stations, and one of the largest "outdoor firms" in the country.

Concentration of media ownership presents questions, which he acknowledged and discussed at a *Shop Talk* evening at the Biltmore OPC headquarters March 21. One of the questions was whether or not it is wise, in our free society, that one-half of the circulation of our 1,762 daily newspapers be owned by just 20 newspaper chains.

Gannett's sphere lies outside New York City, with eight daily papers in Westchester and Rockland counties, an "upstart new morning paper" called *Today*, and several other daily and weekly publications. According to Neuharth, these papers serve a diverse audience with a great deal of variety, news and views.

Neuharth feels that New York journalists should recognize the high degree to which that diversity extends to the media in the New York area. Despite the demise of a few good daily newspapers the City still has "three very different, good newspapers," plus 36 radio stations and 11 TV stations. Neuharth believes that "any New Yorker who wants to be informed has an abundance of choices." To a degree, he said, these different kinds of media exist throughout the country.

In December, 1978, some people "who have really very little understanding of the media" got together in Washington for the Federal Trade Commission's symposium on media concentration, he said. Included were "a few economists, journalism professors, and a politician or two." The question under discussion was whether media concentration had gone so far as to threaten to strangle editorial independence and free expression in this country.

The larger media companies, Dow-Jones, Time, Inc., Knight-Ridder, and Gannett came in for most of the criticism. One senator who, according to Neuharth, had not received a good press, said that "a Teddy Roosevelt era of trust-busting is needed to break up media giants."

Neuharth acknowledged it is true that more and more newspapers are owned by

NEW APPLICATIONS Associate Resident

Milton J. Ellenbogen, Editor, Sutton Publishing Co.

SPONSORS: *Henry Gellermann, Harry Rand*
Peter J. Rosenwald, President Wunderman International Ltd.

SPONSORS: *Mike Slosberg, A.D. Berke*
Martin Sokolinsky, Translator, Newsweek Books

SPONSORS: *Henry Gellerman, Harry Rand*
Michael Marlow, Deputy Director, Press & Publications, UN

SPONSORS: *Marguerite Cartwright, Henry Gellermann*

Associate Non-Resident

Patricia McLaughlin, Freelance writer

SPONSORS: *Dan Rottenberg, Henry Gellermann*

NEW MEMBERS Active Resident

Akira Kojima
David Mulcahy

Affiliate
Abby Jane Brody

groups. About 61% of the nation's 1,762 dailies now belong to groups or chains but, he said, there are 167 such groups and many are quite small — 103 of the 167 chains own just two or three newspapers with a total circulation of less than 50,000 readers.

According to Neuharth, the number of media choices in this country is growing faster than the population. "We have diversity coming out of our ears," he declared. "The greater danger is in government meddling."

He quoted Justice Hugo Black's famous words, "The press is to serve the governed, not the governors."

—Rosalind Moore

LETTERS

Now that OPC has moved into its new and most attractive quarters, OPC begins a new period of what I am certain will be an era of steady improvement and benefit to the members. Let me congratulate the diligent members who undertook this long and successful search for an OPC home.

The opportunity of those of us engaged in communications to serve the public and our profession was never greater or more essential. In the new quarters, OPC can become a more active and beneficial center to achieve those objectives.

Like many of the older and distant members, I look back with gratification to the years of activity at OPC. Now we all look forward to a resurgence of the vigor and dedication of OPC and its members.

—Cecil Brown

Dean Draws Crowd

March rollicked out in rhythm with a twilight jazz session featuring Peter "Snake Hips" Dean and some stiff-strutting jazz that drew a capacity audience March 30.

The sessions have recently been carried by Radio Station WNYC and as a listener wrote OPC jazz chairman, *Wilma Dobie*, "Your joyous jazz with Peter Dean was the best ever. I especially liked the French fiddle, the sexy singer who sang 'Talk to Me' and the rhythm group. Who was on the clarinet?" (signed Chris Persico)

Well, for Chris Persico and members who might have missed "joyous jazz," Persico picked out some highlights but fell short in complimenting the whole scene.

Supporting Dean were sidemen out of sight. At the piano was Dill Jones who came through like gang-busters on "*Honeysuckle Rose*" and was pumped up to a fare-the-well by Ed Polcer, trumpet; Mike Peters on guitar; Sam Parkins (your "fabulous" clarinet, Mr. P.) and Tom Arden on trombone. Keeping the beat the most was Richie Barron on drums. The French fiddle extraordinaire was Charles Wizen.

Now, about that "sexy singer" who had hearts melting in a Valentine mood, it was Jean Churchill wanting everyone to talk with her. Most touching was Dean's rendition of the title song from his album, "*Only Time Will Tell*" with niece, Lucy Simon, sister of well known Carly.

Dean and peers did it — he put fun back into jazz at OPC.

—Wilma Dobie

Neilan Takes Two

OPC member *Edward Neilan* has realized the dream of many foreign correspondents by becoming editor & publisher of a daily paper back in the U.S.

Neilan, who spent a dozen years in Asia for the Copley News Service (and still writes a syndicated column for CNS), recently became editor & publisher of *The Alexandria Gazette*. The paper, founded in 1784, claims to be "America's Oldest Daily."

Neilan is also editor & publisher of THE ASIA MAIL, a monthly devoted to "American Perspectives on Asia and the Pacific."

Many "old Asia hands" are contributors or on the Board of Consulting Editors of THE ASIA MAIL. Latest addition in the latter category is Arnold Dibble, longtime UPI news executive.

If any OPCers would like a sample copy of THE ASIA MAIL and/or receive a free copy of the publication's Writers' Guidelines, write:

THE ASIA MAIL
P.O. Box 1044
Alexandria, VA 22313

FROM THE CLUBS

LONDON — London reporters are poised on a cliffhanger — and it's playing hell with their vacation plans. The \$64,000 question is when Labor Minister James Callaghan will abandon efforts to stay in power at the head of a minority government, toss in the sponge and try his luck in a General Election, which present indications are that he would lose.

Legally, he is not obliged to hold an election until November. He would like to put it off until then, by which time the voters may be less inclined to blame the government for one of the most miserable winters in recent memory — freezeups, un-English blizzards, floods, fogs and transportation breakdowns coupled with the most crippling wave of strikes in 40 years.

But, as of this writing, it looks as if "Sunny Jim" Callaghan's time is running out and he may be forced into an election in May or, at latest, early June — in which case, goodbye to early summer vacations.

Meantime, American reporters here had an early workout in referendums held on March 1 for limited home rule for Scotland and Wales. Some reporters, including the *New York Times's* R. W. "Johnny" Apple, Jr., braved snow and freezing weather to test public opinion in the two small neighboring countries.

After many years as *Washington Post* London bureau chief, following similar stints in Paris and Brussels, Bernard "Bud" Nossiter returned to Washington and was succeeded here by Leonard Downie. Barely had he got his feet on the ground in London when Len Downie found he had drawn the place as pool reporter for the combined American press to take part in the first press visit ever to the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland, where both IRA and Protestant extremists are serving sentences for terrorist crimes.

The purpose of the visit was to show reporters that, contrary to IRA propaganda, a group of 363 prisoners who refuse to wear anything but blankets and smear their cells with their own excrement, are themselves responsible for the conditions in which they live.

Downie reported "Even though prison guards move out the protestors and steam-clean their cells regularly, the hardline IRA men promptly re foul the walls and smash through the glass in their windows each time it is replaced."

Among other changes in the London U.S. press corps Allen L. Otten has replaced Richard J. Janssen as *Wall Street Journal* bureau chief, Scripps Howard correspondent Walter D. Friedenberg is leaving soon, and Mark Landsman has replaced Irwin Margolis as NBC Director for Europe.

Leon Daniel, UPI News Editor for Europe, Middle East and Africa, after three stints in Tehran covering the overthrow of the Shah, found himself pitched into Tel Aviv and Jerusalem for the peace talks with President Carter. Edwin Smith, UPI European Audio Manager, switched to Cairo for the Carter visit after more than three weeks of dodging riots in Tehran.

—Joseph W. Grigg

* * *

LIMA — In answer to your recent request, I must report that there has been little news in Lima this year of interest to club members. At the present time, neither wire service manager in Lima is a member of the club, although both Mark Lifsher of the UPI, who previously worked in Brazil for UPI and in Oregon for the Coos Bay World, and Kernan Turner of the AP, previously chief correspondent for the AP in Mexico, probably have many friends who are members. Dave Belnap of the *Los Angeles Times* and other members stationed in Buenos Aires, have not been through Lima in many months, though this situation will probably change later in the year, as the election campaign warms up. Peru, after 12 years of military government, is holding its first presidential elections in 16 years later this year.

I myself resigned from the UPI last year and will be moving my Peruvian-American family to the Denver, CO., area. There I am looking into several business opportunities and I plan to do some free-lance writing.

—Stephen Morrow

* * *

BEIRUT — Beirut has vanished, for the time being at least, from world headlines. Despite its daily sniping, bombing and machinegun exchanges, this sometime "hot-spot" currently is nothing more than a launching pad or transit point for correspondents racing elsewhere... Tehran, Cairo, Amman, etc. In fact, I just spent three weeks covering Queen Elizabeth's recent tour of the Gulf for the *Birmingham Evening Mail* and several other British newspapers. Also along on that journey were Fernand Auberjunois of the *Toledo Blade*, the dean of American correspondents in London, and Louis Nevin Jr., son of the well-known AP veteran. Lou Jr. represents the French news agency AFP. Also spotted John Cochran of NBC on assignment in Saudi Arabia.

ABC's Jerry King has returned to his Beirut base after several weeks in Iran. Hal Walker of CBS News Bonn has dropped in for another short stay. And NBC has a new radio man here... Andy Murphy, formerly of Belfast.

George Krimsky of the Associated Press is in Beirut long enough to pack his bags for transfer to the AP Foreign Desk in New York. Ned Temko recently left UPI to become Middle East Correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor*, replacing John

Cooley who now is *Monitor* Pentagon correspondent.

For the moment, it appears Beirut is the revolving door of the Middle East as far as OPC'ers are concerned.

Hope this is the type of accounting you seek. Kiss the ground for me over there.

—Milt Fullerton

EAT AND DRINK WITH US!

The Dow Chemical Company

which produces and markets more than 1,000 products worldwide, is committed to a product stewardship program. The objective is to exercise responsibility for Dow's broad product line.

Product stewardship accounts for 22% of Dow's total research costs. It involves employees at all levels in research, manufacturing, marketing, and transportation.

Helping tell the story of
The Dow Chemical Company and other
business leaders is the business of

Burson-Marsteller

PUBLIC RELATIONS/PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEW YORK • CHICAGO • LOS ANGELES •
WASHINGTON • PITTSBURGH • TORONTO
BRUSSELS • FRANKFURT • GENEVA • LONDON •
PARIS • STOCKHOLM • STUTTGART
HONG KONG • SINGAPORE •
• TOKYO • KUALA LUMPUR



OPC BULLETIN

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Overseas Press Club of America, Inc. Air-mailed to members overseas. First class mail to others.

John Guenther, Chairman and Editor; Helen Alpert, Matt Bassity, Ruth Biemiller, George Burns, Blythe Foote Finke, Ben G. Frank, Thomas J. Kraner, Ralph Leviton, Rosalind Moore, Grace Naismith, Rebecca Riger.

WASHINGTON TICKER

Dan Kurtzman was in Washington for a few days from Spain. His latest book due for fall publication, is entitled, "Miracle of Madrid." G. P. Putnam's Sons is the publisher.

* * *

The Standing Committee of Correspondents of the Congressional Press Galleries, made up of 1,200 correspondents, attracted six candidates for three vacancies.

Over one-third of the membership voted: Paul Houston, *Los Angeles Times* received 325 votes, meaning he will be the 1980 chairman. Art Siddon, *Chicago Tribune*, was second and UPI's Dick West was third.

* * *

Charles Marston, who served correspondents in the House Press Gallery for 30 and one-half years, and is known for his "prayer's over" statement, meaning reporters can go inside the gallery, has retired before retirement age.

A dedicated servant and always courteous to the press corps, he refused to let the press give him the usual farewell party, but the press gallery staff took him to dinner and presented him with luggage to use on his forthcoming trip across the U.S.

* * *

John Sparks, longtime oil reporter in New York City, Washington and other cities, suffered a fatal heart attack Jan. 21.

His widow, Aubrey Sparks, of Alexandria, and a daughter, Jan Sheridan of Kansas City, survive. He was a Kansas native.

* * *

Howard Penn and Mary Elizabeth Hudson released their 12th edition of Hudson's 1979 Washington News Media Directory, which contains 262 pages.

It lists 2,536 publications and radio outlets, and 2,183 correspondents, with editors of wire services, news bureaus, newspapers by states, syndicated columnists, radio-TV stations and networks, magazines, newsletters, photographic services and freelance writers, totaling 91 different categories including Canadian and other foreign correspondents.

* * *

Arthur Wiese, Washington Bureau Chief, *Houston Post*, was inaugurated as 72nd president of the National Press Club, succeeding Frank Aukofer, *Milwaukee Journal*.

Fellow Texan Elizabeth Carpenter flew up from Austin to emcee the event, with other Texans present including John C. White, Democratic National Committee Chairman; Texas Gov. William P. Clements, Jr., Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby, part-owner of the *Houston Post* and managing editor Kuyk Logan, and new news editor of *Washington Star*, Murray Gart.

Sen. Nancy Landon Kassebaum, R.-Kan., and Special Assistant to the President Sarah Weddington, participated in the

swearing-in ceremony by Gov. Clements, with Lt. Gov. Hobby holding the *Houston Posts* on which Wiese rested his hand.

Fifteen of the 71 past presidents of the club, founded in 1908 were present, as were Texas members of Congress Rep. and Mrs. Bob Eckhart, Rep. and Mrs. Jim Collins, and Rep. and Mrs. Henry Gonzales.

Others present, including OPC members, were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wilson, Don Shannon, Frank Holeman, Betty Wason and Jessie Stearns.

* * *

Former New York Gov. W. Averell Harriman, this country's eldest elder statesman, is preparing for a trip to the People's Republic of China. He will be accompanied by his wife, Pamela, and his own interpreter. He recently returned from a visit to Russia, where he served as U.S. Ambassador in the 1930s.

Harriman has been an advisor to every Democratic President since Pres. Franklin Roosevelt in 1933.

* * *

Ruth Matthews was married to Georges Tchaika on Jan. 6 in Washington. He is a Kiev-Russian born painter, sculptor and architect who has been in the U.S. since 1932.

After a honeymoon for two months in Mexico, they will be at home in May in Southbury, Conn., where he maintains a studio and exhibits his work.

* * *

Daniel Schorr, who resigned two and a half years ago from CBS News over a "leaked CIA report", has returned to TV.

He is commentator on Metromedia Channel 5's 10 p.m. news. In his settlement with CBS he was barred from taking other TV jobs for two years.

* * *

Rep. Morris Udall, D.-Ariz., and 70 bipartisan House of Representatives members introduced legislation to provide estate-tax relief to owners of local independent newspapers.

The bill reduces the inheritance tax burden on independent publishers so they won't be forced to sell to large chains.

* * *

Eileen Shanahan, assistant secretary of Health, Education and Welfare for public affairs, is returning to the print media, *The Washington Star*, on May 1 as assistant managing editor.

In addition to serving as Secretary Joseph Califano's press secretary, she managed a \$58-million-a-year press relations and publication organization employing 454 people.

This "fighter" for rights joined *New York Times* Washington Bureau in 1962 as national economic policy reporter, and remained with *The Times* until joining HEW in 1977.

* * *

The state visit of People's Republic of China Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, Jan. 29-Feb. 5, attracted the largest contingent of correspondents of any head-of-state guest.

In Washington there were 950 accredited correspondents, plus 1,000 media persons accredited to the White House when Teng arrived at the White House.

There were 30 from the Japanese press in Tokyo, in addition to the large contingent assigned to the Nation's capitol, and 32 Chinese reporters who accompanied the Vice Premier.

Traveling on press planes covering him on his visits to Atlanta, Houston and Seattle were 210 press plus local and regional correspondents. Helping the 32 Communist press corps were 13 American TV personnel.

During Teng's U.S. stay he did not hold one open news conference at which the U.S. press corps could quiz him. There were always press pools, a select group of reporters handpicked by the White House press staff.

It is estimated it cost \$500,000 for a journalist to cover the Vice Premier during his seven days in America.

—Jessie Stearns

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
Hotel Biltmore, 55 East 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

